

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JERUSA 02698 291621Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAA-01 SES-02
ACDA-12 /078 W
-----028627 291633Z /41

O 291525Z SEP 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1853
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 2698

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, IS, US, XF
SUBJECT: PUBLIC DECLARATION BY WEST BANKERS ON CAMP DAVID
RESULTS

REF: JERUSALEM 2661 (NOTAL)

1. AS ANTICIPATED, DELCARATION SIGNED BY WEST BANK MAYORS AND
NOTABLES REJECTING CAMP DAVID AGREEMENTS WAS MADE PUBLIC
SEPTEMBER 29. SUBSTANTIVE ELEMENTS ARE AS OUTLINED REFTEL.
PARA ON TRANSITIONAL SELF-GOVERNING AUTHORITY IS AS FOLLOWS:
"THE SELF RULE PROJECT IS REFUSED IN FORM AND IN SUBSTANCE.
WE CONSIDER IT AS A CONFIRMATION OF OCCUPATIION AND A CONTINUATION
OF OPPRESSION OF THIS (I.E. PALESTINIANS) PEOPLE AND USURPATION
OF THEIR LEGITIMATE RIGHTS."

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2. DEPARTMENT MAY GET QUESTIONS ON
THIS DEVELOPMENT AT NOON BRIEFING SEPTEMBER 29. RECOMMEND WE
ADOPT FOLLOWING LINE:

WE HAVE NOTED THE STATEMENT SIGNED BY WEST BANK
MAYORS. THIS INITIAL REACTION WAS NEITHER UNANTICIPATED

NOR SURPRISING GIVEN THE NUMBER OF NEGATIVE COMMENTS PREVIOUSLY MADE BY THE PLO AND OTHERS IN THE AREA. WE WILL CONTINUE OUR PATIENT EFFORTS TO EXPLAIN THE RATHER COMPLICATED PROVISIONS OF THE CAMP DAVID FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS, INCLUDING THE UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES THEY OFFER FOR PALESTINIANS TO REPLACE MILITARY OCCUPATION WITH SELF-GOVERNMENT AND PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN THE SHAPING OF THEIR FUTURE.

3 COMMENT: THIS IS AN EMOTIONALN ALMOST KNEE-JERK EXPRESSION OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PLO WHICH WAS RAILROADED THROUGH BY RAMALLAH'S KARIM KHALAF AND OTHER PRO-PLO ACTIVISTS. WHILE WE CANNOT IGNORE IT, NEITHER SHOULD WE OVER ESTIMATE ITS IMPORTANCE. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE IMPORTANT WEST BANK LEADERS ARE GIVING SERIOUS STUDY TO THE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT. IN ADDITON, HUSSEIN'S TRUE POSITION IS NOT YET KNOWN. IN OUR PUBLIC STATEMENTS, WE SHOULD NOT HIGHLIGHT THESE INDICATIONS OF FLEXIBILITY NOR EMPHASIZE THE CONSULATE GENERAL'S ROLE LEST WE COMPLICATE OUR TASK HERE.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, IS, US, XF
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